

June 29, 2003

Hi Marty,

I thought you might like to see one of my favorite movies which I'm pretty sure we've talked about, and of course you've read me talking about it in *Restless Pilgrim*. ☺

I suggest watching this alone because it is intense and also I know the subject matter means a lot to you. It is of course in Italian with subtitles that because the film is in stark black and white are sometimes hard to read. However I'm pretty sure you'll know what's being said in some of the harder to read subtitles anyway.

Pier Paolo Pasolini was a contemporary of Fellini, and in addition to being a filmmaker was a poet as well as a communist. As I'm sure you know and to misquote Bob from *Dont Look Back*, "Well communists over there aren't what they are here" (or something like that - like I said a misquote).

Also, as I'm sure I've told you this is about as far as a Hollywood production as you can get. Pasolini got a lot of his actors from the street and the faces in this film seem at times to be almost as important as the story. Visually it is stark, desolate and probably as close a depiction of that time as we've seen in any movie on that time or this subject. There is no glamorization at all.

As far as I can tell (and yes I've read all four Gospels) this is pretty much straight out of the Bible. There are no extra stories added, no extra words put into anyone's mouth for the sake of the film.

Anyway, I hope you like it and I'm sure we'll discuss it.